

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In some instances, the various library elements are connected to one another by linkers. The linkers typically are bifunctional (i.e., the linker contains a functional group at each end that is reactive with groups located on the element to which the linker is to be attached); the functional groups at each end can be the same or different. Examples of suitable linkers include straight or branched-chain carbon linkers, heterocyclic linkers and peptide linkers. Exemplary linkers that can be employed in the present invention are available from Pierce Chemical Company in Rockford, Illinois and are described in EPA 188,256; U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,671,958; 4,659,839; 4,414,148; 4,669,784 4,699,784; 4,680,338, 4,569, 789 and 4,589,071 4,590,071, Eggenweiler, H.M, *Pharmaceutical agent Discovery Today* 1998, 3, 552. --